

Evacuations start as US braces
for Hurricane Earl *pg 2*

Informative night for
parents EPI students *pg 3*

Quota International of
Aruba announces... *pg 9*

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Thursday, September 2, 2010

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Outgoing Dutch Prime Minister Balkenende visits Aruba for last time as P.M.



Aruba Prime Minister Mike Eman welcomes Jan Peter Balkenende upon his arrival at the Reina Beatrix International Airport.

ORANJESTAD – Yesterday, outgoing Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende was on Aruba for a one-day visit. Early in the morning he met with Aruba Governor Fredis

Refunjol, followed by a meeting with members of the government, where he was received with much courtesy.

Balkenende and his delegation had lunch with their

Aruban counterpart in an entertaining environment where they held talks on topics of common interest.

Etty Toppenberg and Erik Escalona provided entertainment, playing Aruban music with a touch of Dutch. Balkenende was very impressed and appreciative of the way they were received.

This is probably the last visit of the Dutch mandatory as Prime Minister as the Netherlands are in deliberations forming a new government and Balkenende has announced his retirement from the political arena after the elections of last June.

He is known as a righteous man with strong principles. His high standards and values dominated the Dutch political arena during his eight years as a politician.

The Cactus and the Humming bird

By: Roland W. Peterson



Photo: Greg Peterson

Astrid Muller receives award from AHATA Environment Committee



Recently, Astrid Muller received an award from the AHATA (Aruba Hotel And Tourism Association) Environment Committee for her tremendous work done not only as a member of the committee but also as its president. She was part of the committee for nine years, from 2001 to 2010.

Astrid Muller was General

Manager at Divi Phoenix and the Costa Linda Beach Resort. At present she works with the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) but maintains contact with the committee, due to her experience and knowledge in the field of environment.

The AHATA environment Committee is active for almost 15 years. Its members comprise hotel associates and executives, members of the community, public and private organizations, all working on a voluntary basis.

The committee's objective is to create more awareness regarding three Rs – Recycle, Re-use Reduce - as possible among the hotels, government departments and the public in general.

The committee's goal is to instill the importance of a clean island to all inhabitants as part of our daily living. We must conserve and safeguard our environment not only for ourselves and the tourists but also for our future generation. People are always asking themselves what difference they can make, being a small island compared to other nations, but in reality, everyone, big or small, can make a difference due to the fact that we are all linked to each other through the network of life. If we keep thinking that we are only a small island, that we cannot make a difference, we will not achieve anything.

Remember, everyone can help everyday in keeping our environment clean and beautiful, by using the three Rs, Recycle, Re-use and Reduce.

**The cactus proudly presents
its flower**

**The little Humming bird is fascinated
It silently hovers over the thorny cactus**

**I watched holding my breath
One little mistake and a thorn will
stab his tiny heart**

**Little Flutter wings is making his
approach
The menacing thorns are silently saying
"Don't come any closer"**

**Then little Flutter wings stands still
in mid air
Just his little wings are zzzzooming**

**Tenderly he dips his
long beak into the flower
His beautiful colors brighten
in the sun rays**

**Silently the little
Emerald flies away
The cactus still standing majestically
in its menacing thorny posture.**

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Evacuations start as US braces for Hurricane Earl

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AFP) - Thousands of people evacuated North Carolina's barrier islands yesterday afternoon as a strengthened Hurricane Earl threatened to pound large areas of the US east coast with heavy winds and rough seas.

The strongest Atlantic storm of 2010 was on a path to lash the North Carolina coast and then move north, wreaking havoc on the end-of-summer US Labor Day holiday weekend that usually draws millions to the beaches.

Earl regained category four status as sustained winds rose to 135 miles (215 kilometers), the National Hurricane Center said.

The eye of the storm was 630 miles (1,015 kilometers) south-southeast of Cape Hatteras in the Outer Banks -- a narrow band of North Carolina barrier islands that is a major tourist destination but prone to high seas.

Earl was churning northwest at 17 miles (28 kilometers)

per hour, prompting watches and warnings along a wide area of the coastline as far north as Massachusetts.

A hurricane warning, meaning hurricane-force winds are expected, was in effect from the Bogue Inlet in North Carolina to the Virginia border.

A hurricane watch, which means dangerous conditions are a possibility, was in effect from the North Carolina-Virginia border to Cape Henlopen, Delaware, and from Woods Hole to Sangamore Beach, Massachusetts, including the tourist islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.

Tropical storm warnings or watches were in effect around the Chesapeake Bay and parts of the New Jersey coast.

In North Carolina, officials in Hyde County ordered a mandatory evacuation for thousands of visitors plus the estimated 800 residents on Ocracoke Island.

The storm was expected to pass about 50 miles (80 kilometers) to the east of Cape Hatteras early tomorrow.

Briefed by top disaster response aides, US President Barack Obama said officials were preparing for the "worst case" scenario and would do all they could to protect vulnerable east coast communities.

Projections showed Earl could remain a powerful storm as it moves toward New England and possibly on to the Canadian coast.

Meanwhile, tracking closely behind Earl is Tropical Storm Fiona, moving north of Leeward Islands, packing top winds of 60 miles (95 km) per hour, with no immediate threats to land areas.

The hurricane center said the fourth storm in the past 11 days, Tropical Storm Gaston, formed in the Atlantic as well Wednesday.

Gaston had winds of 40 miles (65 kilometers) per hour and was centered 1,635 miles (2,635 kilometers) east of the Lesser Antilles.

Obama opens talks as Netanyahu vows peace

WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama yesterday opened long-odds Middle East talks, as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to defy skeptics by forging a "once and for all" peace with the Palestinians.

Obama warned Hamas meanwhile that its "senseless slaughter" of four Israelis in the West Bank would not thwart his efforts, while slim hopes were tempered by persistent tension between Israelis and Palestinians over settlements.

The US president, wagering substantial political capital, plunged into the kind of personal peacemaking effort which ended in frustration for his recent predecessors, bringing five key powerplayers to the White House.

He met separately with Netanyahu, Palestinian president

Three dead babies found in Dutch woman's home

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (AFP) - Dutch authorities have found the bodies of three dead babies at the home of a woman in the southeast of the country, prosecutors said yesterday.

"Three babies' corpses were discovered... at the home of a woman who was arrested on Friday," said Limbourg prosecutors spokesman said.

"She is accused of murdering the three babies."

The bodies were found inside the house and in the yard, Baak said.

A judge in the city of Maastricht extended the 41-year-old woman's detention for two weeks.

Mahmud Abbas, Jordan's King Abdullah II and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, hoping to build trust, on the eve of the first Israeli-Palestinian direct talks in 20 months.

Netanyahu, who heads a conservative coalition which some observers believe will preclude concessions, insisted he was committed to a good faith effort.

"Our goal is to forge a secure and durable peace between Israel and the Palestinians," Netanyahu said in an advance copy of his remarks at a formal joint White House appearance of the five leaders.

"We seek a peace that will end the conflict between us once and for all. We seek a peace that will last for generations."

"President Abbas, you are my partner in peace. It is up to us to live next to one another and with one another."

But Netanyahu also included a tough warning that he would balk at any deal that did not assuage Israel's security concerns.

"We left Lebanon, we got terror. We left Gaza, we got terror. We want to ensure that territory we concede will not

be turned into a third Iranian sponsored terror enclave aimed at the heart of Israel."

In another reminder of the fractious regional situation, Obama was forced to respond to a bid by Hamas to kill his initiative, after the Islamist movement gunned down four Israelis, including a pregnant woman, in the West Bank.

"The tragedy we saw yesterday, by terrorists who are purposely trying to undermine these talks, is an example of what we are up against," Obama said, with Netanyahu at his side.

Obama vowed to "push back" against "terrorist activities."

The direct talks today -- the result of painstaking US diplomacy -- will take place with few of the parties, or outside observers, predicting success amid widespread regional distrust.

But Obama said after meeting Abbas that he was making "progress" -- though there was little sign Israelis or Palestinians had modified entrenched positions.

Hamas, which rules Gaza, is opposed to the peace talks and is a rival of Abbas's US-backed Palestinian Authority.

Gunman shot, all hostages safe in TV station siege

SILVER SPRING, Washington (AFP) - Police shot a gunman and safely freed the three people he had taken hostage Wednesday in a four-hour standoff at the Discovery Channel headquarters outside Washington, police said.

"Approximately 10 minutes ago the suspect was shot by police officers," Montgomery County police chief J. Thomas Manger told reporters, adding that the gunman's condition was unknown but that he was "in custody."

"All the hostages are safe

and are out of the building," he said.

Police had feared for the safety of the hostages, after more than two hours of negotiations between the gunman and authorities, he said.

The gunman, an Asian male, had "what we believe to be explosive devices strapped to his front and back," Manger said, adding that the device "appeared to go off" but stressing that police were just beginning their sweep of the building to assess the situation.

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As of September 1, 2010

Parliament approves the creation of two tourism funds

ORANJESTAD – Recently, during a public meeting in the parliament, the creation for two tourism funds were approved, namely the Aruba Tourism Marketing Fund (ATMF) and the Tourism Product Enhancement Fund (TPEF).

During the meeting Minister of Labor, Transport and Tourism, Otmar Oduber, gave detailed information on the different questions brought forward on the creation of the

funds and its advantages, not only for the tourist sector but for Aruba in general.

One point that stood out was the independence of Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) and its relation with the funds. Main goal of the creation is to guarantee necessary funds for the tourism marketing on Aruba. The money of the funds will be used to improve different tourist related aspects on the island and the quality of service.

The process of independence is going good, all departments concerned are cooperating and Minister Oduber said that the Parliament involved a union representative in this matter, stressing the transparency of this government.

Aruba Investment Bank (AIB) was also asked to collaborate with the process.

Aruba must show through its marketing that the quality of our island is better than our

competitors, this is why there is a difference in price. We must prove that we do not lower our price, simply to compete, but on the contrary, we show them that our quality is superior.

Minister Oduber finished by saying he is very satisfied with the support received by the Parliament for the creation of the funds, something that surely will contribute to the development of our island.

RBTT Bank Aruba N.V. fetes six jubilees



Recently, RBTT Bank Aruba N.V. fetes six jubilees for their many years of service with the prestigious firm.

Mrs. Natasha Willems, Mrs. Cynthia Dirksz-Kelly, Mrs. Runy Campos, Mr. Michael Stamper and Mr.

Ryan Tromp, all celebrated 12 and a half years with the bank while Mr. Adriaan Arends Jr. celebrated 35 years working in

the banking sector.

Natasha started working at the bank in 1998 as Administrative Assistant Customer Desk/Acting Customer Representative and also Administrative Assistant Treasury. As of 2006 Natasha occupies the position of Senior Officer Treasury.

Cynthia started her career with the bank in 1998 as Secretary/Receptionist ATK. Afterwards she was promoted as Administrative Assistant ATK, Transfer Assistant Local and in 2010 she became Transfer International & Treasury Assistant.

Runy joined the bank in 1998 as Teller. That same year she was promoted as Insurance Administrative Assistant, and afterwards as Customer Representative and Supervisor Call Center. In 2004 she was promoted as Senior Officer Call Center.

Michael started working with the bank in 1998 as Teller and since 2004 occupies the function of Retail Support Officer.

Ryan started with the bank in 1998 as Teller and since 2006 he works as Senior CSR-Cash

And last but not least, Adriaan, better known as Juni, started with the bank in 1975 as Teller. Since then he occupied various positions, like Computer Operator, Asst. Teller Supervisor, Branch Assistant Supervisor, Branch Supervisor, Branch Manager, Customer Service Representative Real Estate and since 2006 he occupies the position of Account Executive Preferred Banking

RBTT Bank Aruba N.V. congratulates all the jubilees and wish them lots of success.

Photos show the jubilees accompanied by their respective department heads during the small ceremony held on their behalf.

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Informative night for parents EPI students

ORANJESTAD – Management team of Colegio EPI Unit Science and Technology at Seroe Blanco informs all parents that there will be three informative nights at the school, where all parents will receive general information from management and school teachers. The meetings will be in the College Hall at the east side of the EPI premise from 6:45 – 8:45 p.m.

The informative nights are as follows:

Monday, September 6 - Engineering, classes B-11 and B-12

Monday, September 13 - Mechanical, class W-10

Thursday, September 16 - Electrotechnik, classes E-11, E-12 and E-13

EPI Management hopes that all parents can assist at the meetings in order to get the proper information about the study their children are taking.

It is very important for parents to constantly show interest in the study of their children.

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Paseo Herencia and TGI Fridays celebrate island media



Mexico lauds capture of top drug lord as violence rages



Edgar Valdez Villareal aka 'La Barbie' (C) of the Beltran Leyva drug cartel.

MEXICO CITY, Mexico (AFP) – Mexican authorities yesterday paraded a top drug lord in public, presenting his capture as a much-needed victory in the escalating battle against the country's vicious traffickers.

As police in Mexico City presented US-born Edgar Valdez Villareal, known as "the Barbie" for his fair complexion, eight people were reported killed in a suspected drug gang attack on a bar in the beach resort of Cancun.

Valdez, 37, was a key lieutenant of Arturo Beltran Leyva, who headed the cartel that bears his name and was Mexico's third most-wanted man until his December 2009 death in a military operation.

"The Barbie," whose jokey name belies a gruesome reputation as the head of an assassination squad, appeared smiling in a police line-up, wearing a green polo shirt, along with six other suspects.

Valdez was captured in central Mexico, following intelligence work which began in June 2009 and involved some 1,200 police, officials said.

Federal police chief Faundo Rosas did not rule out that Valdez could be sent to the United States, where he faces several indictments for drug trafficking.

"We're grateful for the aggressive action and commitment by Mexico," said US State Department spokesman Philip Crowley in Washington.

The State Department offered up to two million dollars for information leading to his capture, while Mexican authorities offered a similar amount.

Born in the Texan border city of Laredo, Valdez was responsible for dozens of deaths in central Mexico and near the Pacific beach resort of Acapulco in recent months, according to Mexican authorities.

Many of those killed were mutilated, beheaded or hung from bridges.

The arrest offers some relief to President Felipe Calderon's government as it struggles to assert control amid escalating violence in northeastern Mexico, including the massacre of 72 migrants last week, blamed on the Zetas gang



September 1 is the day when those responsible for putting the spotlight on all the newsworthy individuals and events in Aruba are the center of attention. "Dia di Prensa," National Media Day, applauds Aruba's hardworking journalists and news photographers and many vendors and venues show their appreciation for their efforts throughout the year in diverse fashion.

The management of Paseo Herencia Mall, which hosts countless events dedicated to

entertainment and the community, were particularly grateful for the steadfast coverage they receive during the year. To demonstrate their sincere appreciation to Aruba's press they collaborated with TGI Fridays and hosted a special luncheon on Monday afternoon.

Paseo Herencia General Manager Valerie Camacho-Pietersz and Head of Marketing and Special Events, Sharmaine Tromp, are well aware that Dia di Prensa is a busy day for busy press peo-



ple. Welcoming them two days before their designated day, they treated representatives of every branch of the media to a great start to their week. Print and media reporters, photographers and TV reporters feasted on TGI Fridays' famous fare for a most satisfying way to get a jump on celebrating their special day!

Whether chowing down on the famous TGI Friday Bacon-Cheeseburger, or sampling their sensational Broccoli-Cheese Soup, or sipping some Ultimate Electric Lemonade, all agreed it was a most congenial gathering.

by Rosalie Klein

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Paseo Herencia kids bike tour was a great success!!!



Recently, Paseo Herencia, together with a group of children, enjoyed a kid's bike tour, Ride with a Champ. The bike tour was dedicated to young Shanayah Howel (11 years) who excelled in the sport of BMX and achieved the title of UCI World Champion twice, in the year 2006 and 2007.

The event began at 4:00 p.m. with a parade of bikes, which started in front of Paseo Herencia riding on the streets of L.G. Smith BLVD all the way to Amsterdam Manor Hotel and returning on the road in front of the high rise hotels to finalize at Paseo Herencia

Shopping and Entertainment Center in front of the Holiday Inn hotel.

Before the event, T.G.I. Friday's made sure that every bike was nicely decorated with red and white balloons. During the bike tour each child received a bottle of water sponsored by Tropical Bottling Company, and water melon and ice Popsicles catered by the parents of Shanayah Howell; all this to keep everyone well hydrated and healthy. On their way back to Paseo Herencia the kids were welcomed by Willy the clown who animated them with a stunning clown

show. Children and parents enjoyed the show.

At the same time each kid who participated in the bike tour received their malta from Malta Balashi, Yoplait yoghurt for kids by Consales Aruba, french fries by Taste of Belgium and, as an extra token, the parents of Shanayah Howell prepared cup cakes for every kid.

The best decorated bike prize went to Ella Boekhoudt and Frendall Ollivierre; both won a box of Malta Balashi, a lotion set from Aruba Aloe, a gift certificate from Haagen Dazs and tickets for the Cine-

mas at Paseo Herencia.

Minister of Sports Mr. Richard Visser was also present and gave a speech, recognizing Shanayah Howell for her achievements.

Miss Howell was presented with a picture of her UCI World Champion title and together with her dad Mr. Alan Howell, in presence of management team and all present, hung the picture on the "Wall of Fame Rising Stars of Aruba" which is located in the hall way next to T.G.I. Friday's Restaurant at Paseo Herencia.

A special 'thank you' goes out to everyone who partici-

pated in the bike tour with Shanayah Howell, and to all the sponsors who contributed: Malta Balashi, Tropical Bottling, GoGurt by Consales, T.G.I. Friday's and FOFOTI Tours & Transfers.

Paseo Herencia shopping and entertainment Center is located across the street from the Holiday Inn Hotel and is in walking distance from the high rise hotels. Stores are open Monday to Saturday from 10:00 a.m to 10:00 p.m and on Sunday from 5:00 p.m to 10:00 p.m.

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CATS & DOGS GALORE 3D daily: 4:15 - 6:15 PG matinee: 12:15 - 2:15 PG late show:	STEP UP 3D daily: 7:30 - 9:45 PG-13 matinee: 12:00 PG-13 late show:
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NANNY MCPHEE RETURNS (2010) (COMEDY) - IN THE LATEST INSTALLMENT, NANNY MCPHEE APPEARS AT THE DOOR OF A HARRIED YOUNG MOTHER, MRS. ISABEL GREEN, WHO IS TRYING TO RUN THE FAMILY FARM WHILE HER HUSBAND IS AWAY AT WAR. BUT ONCE SHE'S ARRIVED, NANNY MCPHEE DISCOVERS THAT MRS. GREEN'S CHILDREN ARE FIGHTING A WAR OF THEIR OWN AGAINST TWO SPOILED CITY COUSINS WHO HAVE JUST MOVED IN AND REFUSE TO LEAVE. RELYING ON EVERYTHING FROM A FLYING MOTORCYCLE AND A STATUE THAT COMES TO LIFE TO A TREE-CLIMBING PIGLET AND A BABY ELEPHANT WHO TURNS UP IN THE ODDEST PLACES, NANNY MCPHEE USES HER MAGIC TO TEACH HER MISCHIEVOUS CHARGES FIVE NEW LESSONS.

Science/Tech Sleep-Deprived Teens May Pay a Hefty Price

Teens who skimp on shut-eye eat more fatty foods, a new study suggests.

In the study, adolescents who slept fewer than eight hours on a weeknight consumed more of their daily calories from fat and fewer calories from carbohydrates than teens who slept eight hours or more.

The findings might explain why previous work has found a link between lack of sleep and obesity in teens.

The results also underscore the importance of sleep for this age group.

"It really adds to the growing body of literature that emphasizes the need for children and teens to get sufficient amounts of sleep every night as one of the key ways to promote health and prevent weight gain," study researcher Dr. Susan Redline, a professor of medicine in the Division of Sleep Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Mass., told LiveScience.

However, the researchers note that their study only shows an association and cannot say for certain whether sleep loss did in fact cause the teens to eat more fatty foods.

Less sleep, more fat

Getting too little sleep has been linked with obesity for both adults and children. Other studies have shown sleep deprivation may alter levels of the hormones that regulate appetite. However, few studies have attempted to bridge the gap to see whether lack of sleep in a non-laboratory setting leads to a change in eating patterns.

Redline and her colleagues examined the sleeping and eating habits of 240 teens ages 16 to 19. For five to seven nights, the teens wore a wrist device that measured their sleeping patterns at home. The device, known as a wrist actigraph, detects movement and can detect whether a person is awake or asleep.

The participants were also interviewed about eating habits over a 24-hour period, giving details about what, when and how much was consumed.

Adolescents who slept fewer than eight hours a night consumed 2.2 percent more calories from fat and 3 percent fewer calories from carbohydrates compared with adolescents who slept eight hours or more.

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Hands On with Gmail Priority Inbox

Google this week announced the beta of a new feature for Gmail, called Priority Inbox, a mail-organizing tool designed to bring messages users care most about to the forefront.

The opt-in feature will start showing up in Gmail accounts as a featured link in the upper-right of the inbox. While all Webmail services try to filter out blatant spam, players like Gmail and Hotmail are going further than this lately, targeting not only spam, but also "bologna" and "bacn" - or e-mail that isn't exactly junk mail—like those travel newsletters you signed up for—but isn't a priority either.

To get started with Priority Inbox, you can watch the clever video that the folks at Gmail have produced (and which has irked some Chrome users by playing its honkytonk automatically upon sign-in). The video shows whimsically how Priority Inbox groups your e-mail into categories (not counting pure spam, which it relegates to the spam folder)—Important and Unread, Starred, and Everything else. Actually, if you get into the settings, you can create another category, either "just important" or "just unread."

How does Google determine what's important? They claim it's based on whom you respond to and those you e-mail the most. Since I was testing with an account I don't use heavily, the only thing in my Important and Unread section was the e-mail from the "Gmail Team" telling me about the feature—even though I've never e-mailed or responded to that address. Fortunately, you can tune importance with plus and minus buttons that appear in the middle of the nine buttons above your e-mail list.

Starring is good for keeping messages you've already read handy, though you could just create another Important section, which shows messages whether you've read them or not. Links to the right

of each section let you show only Important and Unread e-mails or only starred messages, but the equivalent link next to Everything Else shows all e-mails, including the important and starred stuff.

For the higher priority sections you can also decide how many items to display—5, 10, 25, or 50. And you can choose to hide empty sections or archive their contents. You can also have Priority Inbox override any mail filters you've set. A final option is to turn off the priority markers, but, at least at first, this doesn't seem like a good options, as it reminds you that you've already marked the message.

Yahoo Mail has had a feature similar to Priority Inbox since January, showing you top e-mails from known contacts on its What's New page, while Windows Live Hotmail has its Sweep feature to let you deal with newsletter overload and the like, though it requires you to select the senders you want to relegate to a subfolder. As TechFlash's Todd Bishop points out, Microsoft has had e-mail prioritization technology for over a decade, even holding relevant patents, but for some reason the company hasn't included it in Hotmail.

Users of the Chrome browser should be aware that there have been reports of the Priority Inbox video's sound playing automatically when they enter their Gmail inboxes. A Google employee posted on the service's forum that the company was working on a fix.

While the prioritization Priority Inbox offers is welcome, it is still visually complicated—more text in an already very text-heavy interface. Yahoo and Hotmail's "from contacts" filters are easier-on-the-eyes. But Google's automation saves you from having to designate contacts beforehand to see the important stuff float to the top, which is a big plus in these days of bacn-filled inboxes.



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HEALTH - LIVING

Kangaroo cuddle 'saves' Australian baby

SYDNEY (AFP) – An Australian couple Wednesday spoke of how they believe the skin-to-skin "kangaroo" cuddle they gave their newborn baby saved the infant's life after their doctor had given him up for dead.

Speaking to Australian television, Kate and David Ogg said medical staff told them that tiny Jamie -- delivered prematurely at just 27 weeks and weighing only one kilo-

gram (2.2 pounds) -- could not be saved.

They said their doctor, who was not named in the Channel Seven report, spent 20 minutes trying to resuscitate the child before giving them the bad news.

"He turned to look at me while his hands were still on the bed and said, 'Have you chosen a name for your son?' And we said his name was going to be Jamie. He turned

around and said, 'We've lost Jamie. Jamie didn't make it.'"

Given the tiny baby to hold, Kate gently placed him on her bare chest and cuddled him in what is known as the "kangaroo" care method, named after the hopping Australian marsupial which carries its young in a pouch.

In this position, Jamie would have been able to hear his mother's heartbeat and feel the warmth of her skin.

"He started gasping more and more regularly and I'm like, 'Oh my God what is going on? Then a short time later he opened his eyes,'" Kate said of the two-hour experience, which Channel Seven said was backed by hospital reports.

"Coming back from the dead sounds pretty miraculous," she added.

Kate and David said they sent a message to the doctor that Jamie seemed to be showing signs of life but were informed that his movements were natural reflexes and there was no way he

could be alive.

"I would say that we would have been the only two people in the hospital that believed the possibility of him coming back after he started showing signs of life," David said.

The couple, who are about to take their thriving five-month-old son and his twin sister to the United States for media appearances, said they were astonished at the interest their story had generated around the world.

"Kangaroo care, it sounds cute, it sounds fun. It helped bring our baby boy around," Kate said.

Greece smoking ban takes effect

ATHENS (AFP) – Greek smokers came under renewed pressure to curb their habit Wednesday as a new law banning smoking in enclosed public places went into effect in Europe's most nicotine-addicted nation.

Under the slogan "Stub out your cigarettes, add to your life," the legislation bans smoking in all enclosed public spaces except casinos and large music halls, which have a nine-month extension to June.

The drive supplements a prior crackdown in July 2009 which was aggressively pursued for a few months before controls relaxed when elections were called.

Those who persist in flouting the law face fines from 50 to 500 euros (64 to 640 dollars) while business operators risk tougher penalties of 500 to 10,000 euros and repeat offenders could have their licences revoked.

This time the government says it will enforce the meas-

ure which Prime Minister George Papandreou said would "contribute to our goals ... of making the country more viable, not only economically but in daily life."

However Health Minister Mariliza Xenoyan-nakopoulou said smokers would have a one-month grace period during which they will not face punishment for breaking the new law.

"This is matter of public health, not a witch-hunt," the minister said.

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San Nicolas



View of the Spaan Lagoen



The ruins of the gold smelter next to the Spaans Lagoen (Spanish Lagoon) and the Franse Pas (Frenchman's Pas)



Boca grande kitespot in San Nicolas

Crossing the Balashi Bridge to San Nicolas, on the west coast, you will find the Spaans Lagoen (Spanish Lagoon).

The Spaans Lagoen is a small bay within the two km long and up to five hundred meters wide. By the tidal force has created a special ecosystem: a wetlands (wetlands). Wetlands are areas and between rural areas and wetlands have high biodiversity. Therefore, the inner bay of great importance for waterfowl and is also an important nursery for reef fish and crustaceans.

The Spaans Lagoen area flows into Savaneta is a fishing village in southeastern Aruba. Home to the oldest surviving home in Aruba, it is the

oldest town on that island and former capital. It was where the Dutch first settled after they recaptured it in 1816. It is said that Savaneta name became during the Spanish colonization in 1840. Savaneta means Sabana chikito (small savannah).

Heading east to San Nicolas you will encounter **Cura Cabai** located along the west coast of the island.

Driving further you will find Aruba's second largest city, **San Nicolas**, with the majority of residents originally hailing from the British Caribbean to work in the Lago oil refinery.

San Nicolas was named after a man who owned of a

big piece of land there. This man was named Nicolaas van der Biest. In the early days owners of big piece of land are addressed by "Shon" with the first name after. So the people used to call him Shon Nicolaas. That later turned into San Nicolas. Some stories indicate that the Spanish influence had something to do with this.

Following east you will find **Seroe Colorado**. Seroe Colorado translates to "colorful hill." The name of the place refers to the 30 meters high of pure limestone at the endpoint in the east of Aruba. The hill got its name due to the brown yellowish color of the limestone.



Mangel Halto in Savaneta



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Quota International of Aruba announces its Shatter Silence Week

ORANJESTAD – For years Quota International of Aruba has been spreading awareness among the community on the care of hearing. During the Carnival period Quota members try to instill this awareness by handing out or selling earplugs.

During the week of September 6 to 11, Quota International of Aruba offers the community the opportunity to take free hearing tests. This can be done at the office of 'Fundacion pa Esnan cu Problema di Oido' (FEPO), the foundation in charge of helping the hearing impaired, situated at Engelandstraat 1, in Eagle.

This year the foundation offers also the community on the east side of Aruba (pariba di brug) the opportunity to take a hearing test, this with the cooperation of the SVB, the government social security department. FEPO has a test cabin at the SVB office in Bernhardstraat 67-C, San Nicolas.

Days for taking the hearing tests at FEPO in Oranjestad are Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For San Nicolas: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Those Interested for a hearing test can call Mrs. Rachel at FEPO (Oranjestad) at tel. 5831016, or Mrs. Yvonne at SVB (San Nicolaas) at tel 5272725 for an appointment.



Quota International, founded in 1919, is an international service organization that links members of all ages, occupations, and nationalities in a worldwide network of service and friendship.

With a motto of "we share," Quotarians are known especially for their service to deaf, hard-of-hearing, and speech-impaired individuals and disadvantaged women and children. Quota members share the values of serving and encouraging others, developing friendships, and promoting international understanding.

On Aruba the club enjoys a good a reputation for the various services they organize every year for the community.

Get ready for the Chef and Student Culinary Festival

Creativity in culinary arts will rule Aruba during the first week of October with the second edition of the EPI Hospitality and Tourism Sector Chef and Student Culinary Festival. Aruba is home to one of the most respected culinary institutes in the Caribbean and they are putting their students to the test for a second time in a world class, professional level competition that will offer a number of gourmet dining experiences for the public.

Eddelyn Dijkhoff and Chef Alvin Leest of the E.P.I. School gave details of the upcoming international event which will welcome competitors from the region. The organizing committee expressed their gratitude "to the many culinary professionals working in the tourism industry, which are extremely dedicated to the education of their students, sharing their expertise and offering guidance at every opportunity." Each of the nine teams participating in the event will be mentored by one of Aruba's renowned chefs.

Returning this year to judge the culinary creations will be Michael Deihl, chef to Tiger Woods at the East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta and President of the Atlanta chapter of the American Culinary Federation-ACF, Chef Christian "Kit" Kiefer and Chef Charles de Vries, all of them international award winning chefs.

The festival will begin on Sunday, October 3, and finish Friday, October 8, with a Culinary Expo for the public at the Renaissance Conference Center from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., followed by the awards ceremony for the winning presentations. Entries will be judged by four members of the American Culinary Federation using international competition standards. There will be first, second and third place awards as well as special recognition for discipline, determination and leadership.

Island professionals who have accepted this year's challenge to mentor the groups are Chef Gilbert Flemming of Milano Restaurant, Chef Jonathan Koolman of Chef Kelly Catering Service, Chef Scott of Aqua Grill, Chef Erwin Huskens of Screaming Eagle, Chef Ever de Pena of Cook's Restaurant, Chef Oscar Steba of The Old Man and the Sea, Chef Darwin Torres of Westin Resort Aruba, Chef Vincent Or-



Michael Deihl and Christian Kit Kiefer



Celebrity chefs with Alvin Leest and Andre Kelly



donez of the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort and Chef Gloria Ramirez of Marriott Aruba.

Talk of the Town is the host hotel of the visiting celebrity chefs and will host a spectacular Celebrity Chef's Cook-Out around their pool on Thursday, October 7, for which the public can purchase tickets. Proceeds will assist the school in continuing to provide a superior level of education.

During the week of competition, the visiting chefs and international press members will be treated to a whirlwind tour of some of Aruba's

finest restaurants.

The organizing committee of the 2nd Chef and Student Culinary Festival reminded all those involved in this aspect of Aruba's tourism product that none of this would be possible without the support of their participating sponsors and venues, and request the cooperation of all those in the industry; those interested in contributing to this important event can contact Eddelyn, Coordinator of the Apprenticeship Program of EPI at telephone 525-8788 or e-mail erdijkhoff@epiaruba.com.

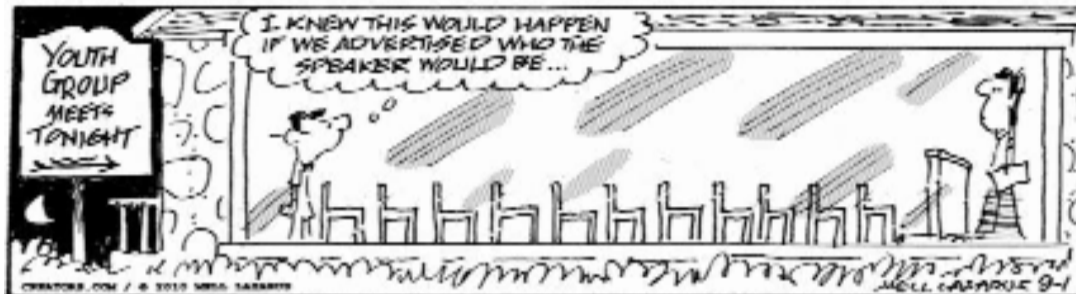
by Rosalie Klein

COMICS

PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

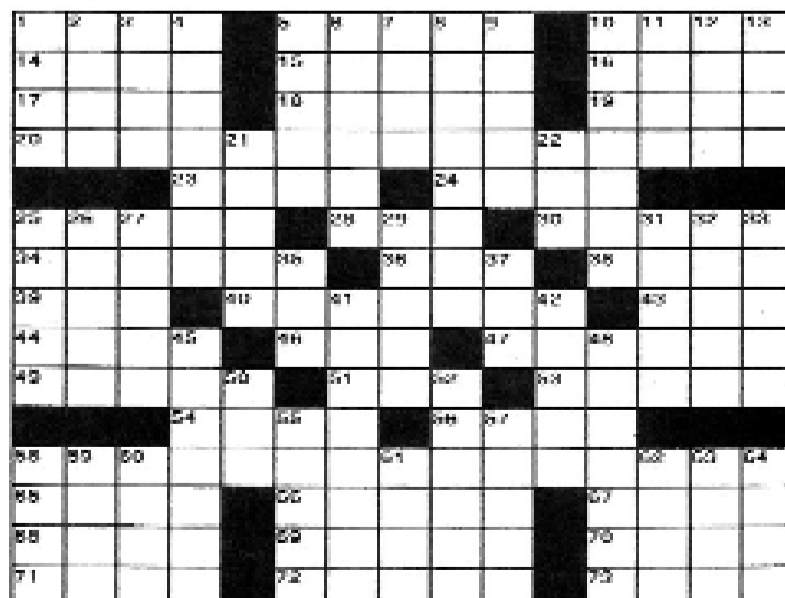
1. English carriage
5. Actor O'Toole
10. Small arrow
14. Humdinger
15. Straighten
16. German river
17. Upon
18. Income: Fr.
19. National flower
20. TV show: 4 wds.
23. Orient
24. Windwind
25. Rules
28. Saul — Marie
30. Flower leaf
34. Rubbed out
35. House wing
38. Feast
39. Do cums
40. Postponed
43. Actress Arthur
44. Mariner Ericson
46. Existed
47. Sky paths
49. Muzzle
51. Actor Vereen
53. Leavening
54. Sniffer
56. And others: abbr.
58. TV show: 3 wds.
65. Hindu queen
66. Gladden
67. Angers
68. Shout
69. Actor Alain
70. Shoshoneans
71. Hardy heroine

DOWN

1. Town map
2. Actress Buzz
3. African lily
4. TV performers
5. "I Love"
6. Chooses by vote
7. Prong
8. Totally
9. Baseballer Pee Wee
10. Radicated
11. Excited
12. Hebrew letter
13. Waste allowance

21. Demolished, in England
22. Corded fabric
25. Rings
26. "As You Like It" forest
27. Wireless ant.
29. Twit
31. Shinbunn
32. Dills
33. Slightest
35. Morning moisture
37. Writer Tolstoy
41. Tagged
42. Wood nymph
43. Comic strips

48. Neighbor of France
50. Shoe tip
52. Gravity theorist
55. Stockholm native
57. Adolescent years
58. Ing
59. Detect
60. Son of Seth
61. New Haven school
62. Commemorative
63. Encounter
64. Being: Latin



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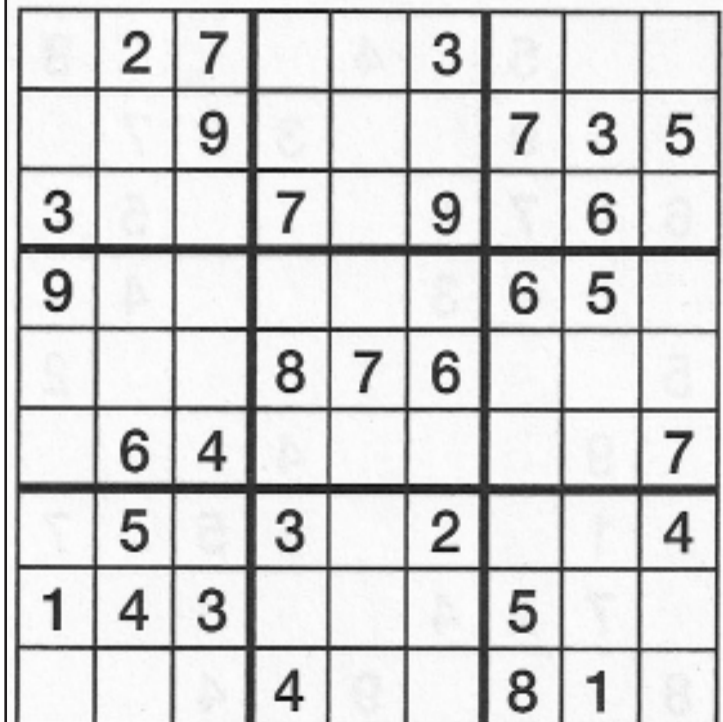
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

8	6	7	5	1	6	9	2	
5	9	4	8	6	2	7	8	1
1	2	8	9	3	7	5	4	6
9	6	1	5	4	8	3	2	7
4	7	8	9	2	6	3	1	5
3	5	2	7	1	8	9	6	4
6	4	9	1	3	5	2	7	8
2	8	3	6	7	4	1	5	9
7	1	5	2	8	9	4	6	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.

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Ministers plan world finance tax

PARIS, France (AFP) - Sixty countries will propose a tax on international financial transactions which could raise 40 billion euros (50 billion dollars) a year to spend on development, ministers said yesterday.

"The tax we propose is five cents out of every 1,000 euros -- it is not much, but it is enough to launch the movement," France's Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner announced in Paris.

"That is equivalent to 30 to 40 billion euros a year," he said, as he hosted a meeting of officials from 12 countries gathered in Paris to review expert advice on the initiative on behalf of the 60 nations in-

volved.

The 60 countries plan to propose the new tax to the United Nations on September 21 at a summit on the UN Millennium Development Goals in New York.

"We are convinced there is a possibility to express political will" to launch the tax, said Charles Michel, the minister for cooperation of Belgium which holds the rotating European Union presidency.

"There is quite a strong consensus for taxing financial transactions in international currencies," said Spain's junior minister for cooperation, Soraya Rodriguez Ramos.

Apple unveils new iPods

SAN FRANCISCO, California (AFP) - Apple chief executive Steve Jobs unveiled a refreshed line of iPod media players yesterday including a new iPod Touch which allows

for video calling.

The new iPod Touch features front- and rear-facing cameras which allow a user to hold video chats with iPhone or other iPod Touch owners using Wi-Fi and an Apple program called "FaceTime."

The new iPod Touch is part of the "strongest new lineup of iPods we've ever had," Jobs said at an event at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco. "It's the biggest change in the iPod lineup ever."

Jobs also showed off a new iPod Shuffle for 49 dollars and a touchscreen version of the middle-range iPod Nano starting at 149 dollars. He said the new iPods would be available next week.

Wall Street soars on strong US, China data

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - Wall Street stocks soared yesterday after strong manufacturing data in the United States and China eased deep-running concerns over the state of the global economic recovery.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average jumped 254.75 points (2.54 percent) to 10,269.47 at the close, while the broader S&P 500 index gained 30.96 points (2.95 percent) to 1,080.29 points.

The tech-rich Nasdaq composite index rose 62.81 points (2.97 percent) to 2,176.84.

Trading was boosted after data showed the US manufacturing sector expanded for the 13th straight month in August, beating most analysts' expectations.

The Institute of Supply Management said its manufacturing index rose to 56.3 points, from 55.5 percent in July, a much larger jump than the 52.9 percent predicted by economists.

A reading above 50 percent

indicates an expanding manufacturing sector.

Nomura Global Economics analyst Zach Pandl said "the better-than-expected result suggests the manufacturing sector has a bit more momentum than we had anticipated, and that the economy is very far from recession."

The strong US figures followed data from China showing that manufacturing in the world's second biggest economy also strengthened last month, easing fears the economy was heading for a sharp slowdown in the second half of 2010.

Analysts said the market's upwards leap was in part due to an excessively negative economic outlook on Wall Street.

"We had a level of pessimism I have never seen. Everything was black, people spoke only of a double-dip recession," said Gregori Volokhine, an analyst at Meeschaert New York.

"Now every time we will

have data that is better than expected we will see the markets jump because everyone was ready for a catastrophic scenario."

Traders set aside a report from payrolls firm ADP saying that US private sector employment dropped in August for the first time in seven months as well as government data showing a bigger-than-expected drop in construction spending.

Among shares in focus, computer giant Apple saw its stocks rise by 2.97 percent after its chief executive Steve Jobs unveiled a refreshed line of iPods media players in a highly-anticipated event in San Francisco.

The bond market was lower.

The yield on the 10-year US Treasury bond was up to 2.582 percent from 2.477 percent on Tuesday while that on the 30-year bond rose to 3.662 percent from 3.533 percent. Bond yield and prices move in opposite directions.

World stock markets surge on US, China data

LONDON, England (AFP) - Stock markets around the world shot higher yesterday on strong manufacturing data in the United States and China that boosted investor confidence after recent losses.

On the currency market the dollar weakened, however, on news that the US private sector shed 10,000 jobs last month.

Asian stock market gains, powered by reports of robust Chinese manufacturing activity in July and August and better-than-expected second quarter Australian growth of 1.2 percent, bolstered early European sentiment.

Tokyo rose 1.17 percent, Sydney 2.08 percent and Hong Kong 0.43 percent.

Markets across Europe then rose sharply again in mid-afternoon deals after a report showed that manufacturing output in the United States expanded for the 13th straight month in August.

The ISM index rose to 56.3 points from 55.5 in July, confounding forecasts for a fall to 52.9.

In London, the London FTSE 100 index added 2.70 percent to close at 5,366.41 points while in Paris the CAC 40 jumped 3.81 percent to 3,623.84. The Frankfurt DAX rose 2.68 percent to 6,083.90 points.

Elsewhere there were gains of 3.22 percent in Milan, 3.51

percent in Madrid and 2.86 percent in Amsterdam.

US investors turned the page on the worst August performance on Wall Street in nine years, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average up 2.33 percent at 10,251.16 points by mid-day. The tech-heavy Nasdaq gained 2.84 percent to 2,174.00.

"Following a dreadful month for equity markets, the first day of September has kicked off with strong gains across the board," said GFT analyst David Morrison said.

But hanging ominously over the encouraging US manufacturing report was the disclosure that US private sector employment fell in August for the first time in seven months.

Payrolls firm ADP said 10,000 private-sector jobs were lost last month following a revised July increase of 37,000 jobs.

Most economists had expected 13,000 jobs to be created.

The weak data came ahead of the government's monthly employment report due tomorrow, with most analysts forecasting non-farm payrolls to fall 118,000 in August and unemployment to edge up to 9.6 percent from 9.5 percent.

The US economy's recovery from a brutal recession has weakened recently, largely as a result of unemployment

that has dampened consumer spending.

"Demand growth has slowed, largely triggered by the spring plunge in stock prices and cautious companies are responding by holding fire on hiring," said Ian Shepherdson, chief US economist with High Frequency Economics.

The private sector job figures weighed on the dollar, sparking fears that the US economy could tumble into another recession, analysts said, notably as government action against unemployment was likely to be frozen ahead of mid-term elections in November.

The euro in late day trade firmed to 1.2810 dollars from 1.2681 dollars on Tuesday.

Both the euro and the dollar were stronger against the yen, halting an appreciation in the Japanese currency that was seen as a threat to Japanese exports and more broadly to its economic momentum.

The euro was trading at 108.15 yen, up from 106.79 yen, while the dollar rose to 84.48 yen from 84.22 yen on Tuesday.

Gold was meanwhile quoted at 1,246.50 dollars an ounce at the fixing, up from 1,246 dollars on Tuesday. The metal at one point jumped to 1,254.73 dollars an ounce, close to its record 1,265.30 dollars.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

T	R	A	P	U	P	S	E	T	A	L	F	A
A	A	R	E	N	A	O	M	I	F	E	A	R
T	H	E	L	I	T	T	L	E	P	R	I	N
S	A	L	L	I	E	D	E	R	S	T		
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A	G	R	E	E	D	S	A	M	E	T	R	A
R	I	A	L	N	A	I	A	D	W	I	N	
I	D	Y	L	L	S	O	F	T	H	E	K	I
A	D	O	A	L	L	E	Y	E	N	D	S	
S	Y	N	R	O	A	R	S	A	N	E	S	T
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E	M	P	E	R	O	R	N	A	P	O	L	E
S	E	E	R		V	O	I	C	E		E	R
P	E	R	T		A	C	T	E	D		D	E

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Linda's Pancakes and Pizza place, delicious meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner



Plain Pancake

Linda's Pancake and Pizza place, located at Palm Beach 6D, Noord (on the right side of Valero gas station) offers patrons the most delicious Dutch pancakes and pizza's with a Dutch twist.

Open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and only five minutes away from the high-rise resorts, Linda's is the perfect eatery for the whole family.

Seeing the popularity of this quaint small eatery, THE MORNING NEWS decided it was time to find out just

pizza is just mmm... good. The saté... out of this world!"

Besides the original plain pancake, Linda's specialty is pancakes with walnuts, Brie and honey; pancakes with banana and mango or a Dutch favorite: pancake with apple and bacon.

All their pizzas are made with Dutch Gouda cheese and different toppings making it richer in taste.

When it comes to saté, one has to say that the secret is in



Olgita, Ilhan and Iyanla enjoying a scrumptious meal

how good Linda's really is, by sending out a team of taste testers.

Olgita, joined by her two kids ordered a little of everything while the kids roamed around freely, enjoying the afternoon.

The meal started out with Linda's original plain – to die for – Dutch pancakes, followed by pizza, where instead of using mozzarella Linda has created a unique twist to the traditional Italian dish by using Dutch Gouda cheese. Adding a local favorite which could not stay off the table they also sampled the delicious saté (chicken, pork or beef on a wooden skewer) with peanut sauce (Indonesian influence on local food). For the finish the team (adults only) had one cup of Linda's delicious Espresso.

The team had this to say: "Superb! There are no words to describe just how delicious the pancakes are and the

the sauce. Not everybody can make that perfect peanut sauce, but Linda, being an expert in the kitchen has cooked up one of the finest peanut sauces on the island, making this original Indonesian dish extra special.

If you want a specially prepared pancake or pizza, Linda is right there -- just for you -- in her kitchen.

"For those who are allergic to gluten I have a special pancake mix, gluten free," Linda stated to THE MORNING NEWS team.

Linda's Pancakes and Pizza also offers fried eggs and homemade soups.

"We also serve American coffee," Linda concluded.

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Michael Douglas optimistic despite serious throat cancer

NEW YORK (AFP) - Hollywood star Michael Douglas has admitted his throat cancer is more serious than first thought, but says he remains optimistic as he undergoes intensive treatment.

"It's a stage four, which is intense, and they gotta go at it," Douglas told chat show host David Letterman on the "Late Show" Tuesday night.

Douglas, 65, who is married to another Hollywood A-lister, British actress Catherine Zeta-Jones, only recently revealed that he had been diagnosed with throat cancer when he returned to the United States from a family holiday three weeks ago.

But he had not mentioned the seriousness of the disease in his earlier interview with People magazine.

He told Letterman Tuesday: "I am head and neck, I am above the neck, so nothing's gone down and the expectations are good."

"You like to be down at stage one but the big thing you worry about is it spreading."

The son of screen legend, Kirk Douglas, who is now 93, Michael Douglas said he had been suffering from



Michael Douglas arrives at the "Late Show with David Letterman" studios in midtown Manhattan, his first public appearance since it was revealed a couple weeks ago that he has throat cancer

throat problems for several months.

"I went through a litany of doctors and tests and they didn't find anything and then I had a great summer after some other personal adversities," he told Letterman.

He said he had spent "a wonderful summer with Catherine and the kids in Spain. We went to Russia, St.

Petersburg, which is fantastic."

"I came back and a guy said 'Let me have a look'. All happened within three weeks. They got a biopsy and analyzed it."

Douglas, who has two young children with Zeta-Jones, said he was undergoing radiation and chemotherapy.

"The percentages are very good. I would hate to say, but right now, it looks like it should be 80 percent, and with certain hospitals and everything, it does improve."

Douglas is one of the pillars of the Hollywood film industry having starred in more than 40 films, including such hits as "Fatal Attraction" (1988), "Wall Street" (1988), "War of the Roses" (1990), "Basic Instinct" (1992) and "Traffic" (2001).

Douglas's latest film, the sequel to the 1987 box office hit "Wall Street" called "The Money Never Sleeps," directed by Oliver Stone, is due to hit movie theaters in the United States later this month.

Douglas has a son from an earlier marriage, Cameron Douglas, who was sentenced in April to five years in prison for drug-trafficking.

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'Animal' Blair opens up on sex and politics



He also pays tribute to his wife for her composure when she gave birth to their fourth child in 2001 -- the first to be born to a sitting British prime minister in 150 years -- adding: "There are times when I am in awe of that woman."

Later in the book Blair waxes lyrical on his thoughts about the relationship between politics and sex, saying that, while wrong, affairs seem to represent a "desert island of pleasure" for stressed-out lawmakers.

"It's a strange thing, politics and sex," Blair writes in a section dealing with an affair that then-deputy prime minister John Prescott had with his diary secretary, a relationship which emerged in 2006.

"Politicians live with pressure. They have to be immensely controlled to get anywhere, watch what they say and do, and behave. And your free-bird instincts want to spring you from that prison of self-control," he writes.

"Then there is the moment of encounter, so exciting, so naughty, so lacking in self-control. Suddenly you are transported out of your world of intrigue and issues and endless machinations and the serious piled on the serious, and just put on a remote desert island of pleasure, out of it all, released, carefree."

But he insisted that such behaviour was still "stupid... and irresponsible."

For the most part, Blair's memoirs, published worldwide from Wednesday, deal with more weighty political matters during his decade in Downing Street from 1997 to 2007.

LONDON (AFP) - Tony Blair's memoirs out Wednesday concern more than just affairs of state -- Britain's ex-premier also gives intimate details about his wife and describes the sexual shenanigans of other politicians.

In "A Journey", Blair writes candidly of his "animal" feelings for his wife Cherie one night when he was on the brink of going for the leadership of the Labour party after the death of incumbent John Brown in 1994.

"That night she cradled me in her arms and soothed me; told me what I needed to be told; strengthened me; made me feel that what I was about to do was right," Blair writes of Cherie, with whom he now has four children.

"On that night of 12 May 1994, I needed that love Cherie gave me, selfishly. I devoured it to give me strength, I was an animal following my instinct, knowing I would need every ounce of emotional power and resilience to cope with what lay ahead."

Low-budget battler likes test as next Murray foe



Brown, ranked 123rd, has risen nearly 300 spots in the world rankings as a low-budget operator and is excited to show what he can do against elite talent.

"The last year has been a very good year for me, ranked maybe 400-something to inside the top 100 and that with limited support from federations," he said.

"If I get financial backing and a coach traveling with me, we'll just see what happens. Either way I think there's definitely much more to come."

NEW YORK (AFP) - Jamaica's Dustin Brown has no coach, no extra money, no major financial backing and no experience in front of huge crowds like the one that will watch him play Britain's Andy Murray at the US Open.

But the 25-year-old German-born standout has no lack of confidence in facing the Scotsman after taking his first Grand Slam triumph on Wednesday, ousting Spain's Ruben Ramirez Hidalgo 6-4, 7-6 (8/6), 7-5.

"I'm really excited to play against him," Brown said. "I'm definitely going to play my type of tennis, play aggressive, try to keep the points short. He's a very good returner, so I'll have to see how it works out, how I'm serving, if it's possible to play serve and volley or have to play from the baseline."

Gay overwhelms Carter to win in Zagreb

ZAGREB (AFP) - American star sprinter Tyson Gay put Jamaican rival Nesta Carter in his place on Wednesday when he easily beat him in the 100 metres race at the Zagreb Grand Prix meeting.

The 28-year-old American got a poor start but still timed a meet record 9.92 seconds while Carter - who on Sunday had equalled Gay's fastest time of the year of 9.78sec - was second well back in

10.07sec.

American Michael Rodgers was third in 10.14 sec.

"I made a lot of mistakes at the beginning of the race," Gay told Croatian national television.

"It was very cold but the cold weather did not affect my result.

"I thank Nesta for inspiring me for the victory. I'm in good shape, relaxed and enjoying running," he added.

to play, where I have to train. Then I just can't perform good."

While his big weapon is his serve, Brown also loves the drop shot.

"I try it and I see how it works," he said. "If the guy is running it down every time and hits a winner, then I should stop."

Brown had inquired about playing Davis Cup tennis for Britain or Germany but hopes to heal differences with Jamaican officials that sent him searching.

Pietersen says sorry for rant after England axing

LONDON (AFP) - Kevin Pietersen has apologised for his furious reaction to England's decision to leave him out of the one-day squads to face Pakistan.

Pietersen was axed from the five one-day internationals and two Twenty20 matches after a poor run for England in an attempt to give him time to rediscover his form during a loan spell with English county Surrey.

The batsman responded to the news by posting a message on micro-blogging internet site Twitter which said: "Done for rest of summer!! Man of the World Cup T20 and dropped from the T20 side too.. Its a f*** up!!"

Pietersen's blast was reported to have infuriated national selector Geoff Miller and, in a bid to calm the situation, he has now said sorry for his rant.

The 30-year-old, who will leave his parent county Hampshire at the end of the season, claimed he published the message on Twitter by mistake and apologised for his comments ahead of his Surrey debut against Worcestershire on Wednesday.

"It came out in the way that I didn't want it to come out," Pietersen told Surrey TV.

"It was something that wasn't meant for the public domain and I apologise for it entering the public domain and I also want to apologise for the language I used."

Earlier, Darren Gough, a former England bowler, earlier told TalkSport that Pietersen -- the star of England's winning World Twenty20 campaign earlier this year -- deserved a chance to rediscover his form against Pakistan.

"He's England's best one-

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day player and what better way for him to get back into form than to go out against Pakistan and belt it," Gough said.

"It's absolutely pathetic that you can drop the man who was player of the tournament at the World Twenty20 earlier this year.

Gough also insisted Pietersen should continue to be a part of England's plans for their defence of the Ashes in Australia.

"If they don't take him to the Ashes, we might as well

just give Australia the urn," Gough added, contrasting Pietersen's treatment with the way Australia has backed out-of-form players in the past.

"What would Australia have done? I didn't see them drop Mike Hussey when he was struggling. I didn't see them drop Michael Clarke when he went through a bad run of form. They stick with them because they're world class."

While Pietersen clearly has Gough's support, another of his former international team-mates - ex-England captain Michael Vaughan - believes the star was wrong to voice his opinion on Twitter.

"What he did on his Twitter account was totally wrong," Vaughan told BBC Radio 5 live. "I think that's something Kevin will regret for a long time."

Vaughan, who led the England team when Pietersen burst onto the scene in 2004, is confident England's handling of the situation will help Pietersen in the long run.

"I actually think that England have managed it in a good way," Vaughan said.

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Oswalt flirts with no-no as Phils top LA



IZMIR (AFP) - The basketball world championships created more questions than they answered on Wednesday with three of the four groups going down to the wire.

In group A Serbia began the day by beating Australia 94-79 and guaranteed advancement along with Argentina, leaving Australia, Angola and Germany fighting it out for the remaining two spots.

Next up were Germany and Angola, with Angola needing to win to remain in contention. They did just that, holding off the Germans 92-88 in overtime on the back of 30 points from Olimpio Cipriano.

Argentina completed group A action beating Jordan 88-77. Jordan surprised the Argentineans who needed a 30 point haul from Luis Scola to get them up over the spirited Jordanians.

"The situation in our group is very complicated and it is not clear what will happen," Australian Matthew Nielsen (10 points) told reporters following his game.

One team that already knows it is going home is Tunisia, who were convincingly beaten 84-64 by Croatia in the opening game of group B.

But after the game Tunisian head coach Adel Tlatli remained positive: "I am very happy with my team. To lose by 20 points against a team like Croatia is a good result for us. I didn't think we could achieve that before the start of the tournament."

Next up in Group B were the USA who had no problems maintaining their unbeaten run with an 88-51 rout over Iran.

Slovenia guaranteed their spot in the second round alongside the USA, beating Brazil 80-77.

Brazil, Croatia and Iran are now left to decide the remaining two spots. Iran must beat Slovenia to have any chance of going through ahead of the loser from the Brazil-Croatia game.

Following an 89-80 loss to Russia China now face the very real threat of not advancing from group C.

They need to pull off an unlikely victory over hosts Turkey or have the Ivory Coast pull off an upset over Puerto Rico to continue their campaign.

It is unlikely for the second scenario to play out with the Ivory Coast suffering another heavy loss on Wednesday, this time to Greece 60-97.

Turkey did however show some kinks in their armor, giving the Chinese some hope with Angel Vassallo (19 points) nearly getting his Puerto Rican side up to beat the Turks, who were lucky to hold on to win 79-77.

In group D Wednesday's matches confirmed that Spain, France, Lithuania and New Zealand will advance to the next round.

Today's games will simply decide in what order they will go through. The two unlucky teams going home are Canada and Lebanon.

New Zealand confirmed their spot with the other three teams, by beating the winless Canada 71-61.

Lebanon was able to keep Spain in check for two quarters, before the latter pulled away in the second half to win easily 91-57. Marc Gasol led the Spaniards with 25 points.

In group D's final match of the day, the two unbeaten teams of the group, France and Lithuania came up against each other. Once again Lithuania rallied from behind with Janis Maciulis' 19 points helping his team to turn a 15 point deficit into a 69-55 victory.



LOS ANGELES -- If the Phillies catch the Braves in the National League East or maintain their lead in the NL wild-card race, their rotation looks playoff tough.

Roy Oswalt carried a no-hitter into the sixth inning in a 5-1 victory over the Dodgers on Wednesday at Dodger Stadium.

The Phillies won five of their first six games on their seven-game road trip through San Diego, Los Angeles and Colorado.

Oswalt allowed one hit, six walks and struck out six in 6 1/3 scoreless innings.

Call him wildly effective.

Oswalt is 4-1 with a 1.89 ERA in seven starts since the Phillies acquired him in a July 29 trade with the Houston Astros. Interestingly, Cliff Lee, whom the Phillies traded to Seattle in the offseason, is 1-4 with a 6.35 ERA in his last seven starts. Lee likely will return to form. Phillies fans might forget because of his unforgettable

October, but Lee went 2-4 with a 6.13 ERA in his final seven starts in the regular season.

The Phillies hope Oswalt experiences no downturn, not with a month to play.

Oswalt walked James Loney three times, Casey Blake once and Rod Barajas once before Blake singled to right field with two outs in the sixth inning to break up the no-hitter. Oswalt walked Ryan Theriot with one out in the seventh inning before Phillies manager Charlie Manuel replaced him with left-hander J.C. Romero.

The Phillies took a 1-0 lead in the first on Jimmy Rollins' leadoff homer to left field against Dodgers left-hander Clayton Kershaw. Shane Victorino hit a leadoff homer to left in the second inning to make it 2-0. The Phillies took a 3-0 lead in the seventh with Rollins walked, stole second and scored on Chase Utley's double to left field.

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Searchers find empty campsite of Arum's son

LOS ANGELES, September 1, 2010 (AFP) - A search and rescue team is combing the mountainous terrain around Seattle on foot and in helicopters to look for the missing son of international boxing promoter Bob Arum.

John Arum, 49, was hiking in the Northern Cascade mountains when he went missing. Arum, an experienced hiker, is trying to climb the 100 highest peaks in the state of Washington, his family said.

Searchers have located Arum's empty campsite and

tent in the Storm King Peak area but no sign of the environmental lawyer. The search on foot continues and on Wednesday a helicopter joined the hunt.

Bob Arum was in Los Angeles Tuesday for the first of three stops on the tour to promote the November 13 Manny Pacquiao and Antonio Margarito junior middleweight title fight but left that same day to help in the search.

The Pacquiao fight will take place at November 13 at Cowboys Stadium in Dallas.

Venus Williams into third round at US Open



NEW YORK (AFP) - Venus Williams battled blustery conditions and a bold challenge from Canadian qualifier Rebecca Marino to reach the third round of the US Open on Wednesday.

The third-seeded American won through 7-6 (7/3), 6-3 to set up a third-round tie against another qualifier, Mandy Minella of Luxembourg, who upset 32nd seed Tsvetana Pironkova of Bulgaria.

But she was made to scrap for it all the way, especially in a first set which saw Marino, who at 19 was 11 years younger than her opponent and playing in just her second WTA Tour-level event, regularly out-hit the two-time former champion.

Williams had trouble with her serve action as the hot morning conditions on the Arthur Ashe Centre Court were joined by gusting winds in the afternoon.

Marino, behind a big serve and forehand, stayed with Williams to 3-3 in the tie-breaker, before the sole US seed this year ran off four points in a row to move ahead.

The American won three games in a row to move 4-1 up in the second set and then served out to advance into the

third round.

"It was challenging, not just with the conditions, but also my opponent. She served so well and mixes up her shots," Williams said.

"It seemed like every time I had an opening she came up with a big serve, so I guess I know what its like now playing myself."

Sweltering conditions and gusting winds proved a handful at the US Open, but it was a simple training stumble by Belarus starlet Victoria

Azarenka that shocked fans.

The 10th seed was 1-5 down in a second round tie against Argentina's Gisela Dulka when she suddenly collapsed in a heap behind the baseline.

With temperatures at Flushing Meadows once again soaring into the 90s Fahrenheit (30s Celsius), first indications were that she had fallen victim to the extreme conditions.

But Azarenka later shed light on the incident by explaining in a statement that she had fallen in the gym prior to her match while running a sprint and had stumbled forward, hitting her head and arm.

"I was checked by the medical team before I went on court and they were court-side for monitoring," she said.

"I felt worse as the match went on, having a headache and feeling dizzy. I also started having trouble seeing and felt weak before I fell."

"I was taken to the hospital for some medical tests and have been diagnosed with a mild concussion."

Also through was French Open champion Francesca Schiavone, who looked back to near her best in a 6-2, 6-2 demolition of Spain's Maria Elena Camerin.

Just as impressive was former French Open champion Ana Ivanovic, who looked more like her old self in crushing China's Zheng Jie 6-3, 6-0 in the opening match on the Arthur Ashe Centre Court.



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